

EMAA Head Start Annual Report 2021

EMAA Head Start is a federally funded program designed to provide comprehensive early childhood and family development services to children ages 3-5 years old. Head Start provides services in the areas of education and early childhood development, medical, dental, nutrition, mental health and parent involvement. EMAA Head Start offers a center-based option for eligible children throughout our eight county service area. This area includes Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Iron, Madison, Perry, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve and Washington counties.

Program Funding:

The majority of funds received are awarded from the Administration for Children and Families (federal funds). We also receive funds through the State Child and Adult Food Care Program (CACFP) as reimbursement for cost of the food used in our program.

The chart below demonstrates our 2021 funding amounts:

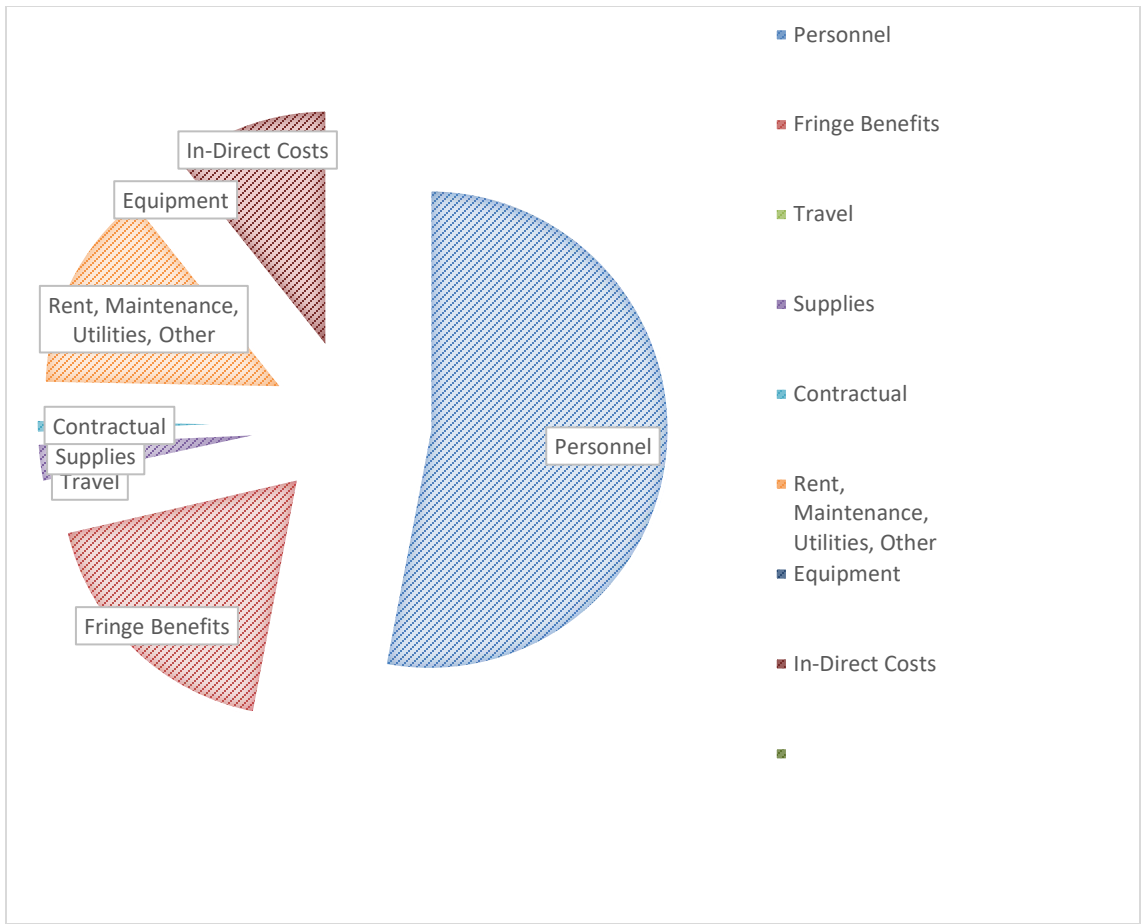
Please note- Due to COVID 19 we were able to apply for “COVID 19 One Time Funding” which we were able to use in order to protect our children/staff/families with PPE (personal protection equipment), network upgrades due to virtual learning, and a summer school program for children that would be entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2021.

Federal Grant Funds	\$5,280,726
CACFP	\$234,208

Budget breakdown are as follows:

Personnel	53%	(2,821,361)
Fringe Benefits	18.4%	(977,400)
Travel	.2%	(11,548)
Supplies	2.7%	(141,015)
Contractual	1%	(19,800)
Rent, Maintenance, Utilities, Other	14%	(743,966)
Equipment	0%	(0)
In-direct Cost	10.7%	(565,636)

EMAA Head Start is responsible for generating 20% non-federal share through volunteers, donations of cash, supplies, equipment or space. The amount of non-federal share generated for this year is \$1,172,412.



Our proposed budget for next year is \$5,280,726.

Enrollment Information:

Funded Enrollment	542
Actual Enrollment	592 (includes dropped children)

Enrollment by months:

January	346	64%
February	344	64%
March	374	69%
April	394	72%
May	394	72%
June	Not in Session	Not in Session
July	Not in Session	Not in Session
August	513	95%
September	533	98%
October	529	97.5%
November	514	95%
December	515	95%

Of the actual enrolled children 592, 592 were income eligible.

Of the total enrolled children 592, 588 received medical exams and 404 received dental exams.

Of the total enrolled children 592, we served 5 homeless families.

Meals Served:

From January 1 to December 31, 2021 our CACFP served **74,902** meals.

Financial Audit:

The independent audit report completed by Boyer and Associates, PC for the year ended September 30, 2020 revealed no audit findings.

Aligned Monitoring System:

The OHS (Office of Head Start) began a new comprehensive monitoring process that will span over our five year grant award. This is our first year of our new five (5) year cycle. During the week of October 21-25, 2019 we received a focus Area I Review. We had no findings or non-compliant issues.

Parent involvement activities include the following:

- * Monthly parent meetings
- * Home visits
- * Parent Based Curriculum
- * Participation in Policy Council
- * Participation in Health Service Advisory meetings
- * Volunteering in classrooms
- * Father/Father figure activities

We also offer before and after care for our working parent or parents in job training or furthering their education.

Preparing children for Kindergarten:

EMAA Head Start strives all year to better prepare our children for Kindergarten using the scientifically research-based Creative Curriculum. This curriculum promotes school readiness in the areas of language and cognitive development, literacy and math skills, social and emotional development, physical development and logic and reasoning skills.

We use the Dial-4 screening assessment tool along with Head Start Early Learning Framework and Teaching Strategies Gold Objectives and Dimensions. In addition, teachers conduct on-going observations and develop a portfolio for each child. Progress reports are shared with families quarterly.

Education staff:

Eight-nine percent of our teachers have a four year degree in Early Childhood or a related field. We have 55 Assistant Teachers of which eighteen (18) have at least a CDA and four (4) have an AA or greater and five are currently enrolled to obtain their CDA.

We have thirteen (13) Family Advocates of which eight (8) have a Family Service Credential, and two (2) have a BA degree.

To help successfully transition children from Head Start to Kindergarten we invite public school teachers to be a guest speaker at a parent meeting. They discuss the requirement of Kindergarten and parents have the opportunity to ask questions regarding class policies. A field trip is planned to the public school in which the Head Start child visits the Kindergarten classroom and tours the building. A lot of times, the children even eat in the cafeteria.

Community Needs Assessment Summary:

An abbreviated Community Needs Assessment was conducted in 2021. In developing our community assessment, surveys were given to parents, governing body and policy council members that outlines some of our needs. Focus groups were conducted and all three of the above identified groups served on these groups to develop needs and strategies to meet the needs. The Head Start Strategic Plan was then developed using the identified needs, with input from the above named groups. Our program goals are outlined in this plan and were approved by both the governing body and policy council.

East Missouri Action Agency – Head Start

Angela Mehrtens – Policy Council Chairperson
Denis Moore - Chairman, EMAA Board of Directors
Keri McCrorey – Executive Director, EMAA
Renee Killian – Head Start Director
Jan Cooley – Head Start Deputy Director